Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A computer implemented method of sharing ~~information~~ static data resources associated with a group among members of a~~the~~ group, the method comprising:

storing member-only static data resources associated with a group in a host system;

storing information associated with ~~about~~ more than one current member of [[a]] the group in a database;

receiving instructions from at least one current member to invite at least one prospective member to join the group;

sending an invitation to the prospective member to join the group;

receiving a response from the prospective member;

adding the prospective member to the group as a new member based upon receipt of an affirmative response; ~~and~~

automatically updating ~~services to~~ group membership ~~current members~~ to account for the new member;

storing information associated with the new member in the database;

sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group among the current members of the group and the new member based upon the updated group membership; and

sharing the stored information associated with the current members of the group and the new member based upon the updated group membership.

2. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sending the invitation ~~comprising~~comprises using an e-mail message.

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3. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sending the invitation comprises using an instant message.

4. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sending the invitation comprises using an on-line chat room.

5. (Previously presented): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein receiving the response comprises receiving the response as an e-mail message.

6. (Previously presented): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein receiving the response comprises receiving the response as an instant message.

7. (Previously presented): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein receiving the response comprises receiving the response in an on-line chat room.

8. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein automatically updating ~~services~~ group membership to account for the new member comprises providing a list of current members that includes the new member.

9. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein automatically updating ~~services~~ group membership to account for the new member comprises providing information in an address book that includes address information for the new member.

10. (Previously presented): The computer implemented method of claim 9 further comprising updating the address book based upon information entered by the current members of the group.

11. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein ~~automatically updating services~~ sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises providing information in a shared group calendar that includes information for the new member.

12. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 11 further comprising updating the shared group calendar based upon information entered by the current members of the group.

13. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 11 further comprising inviting current group members to attend an event and automatically recording the event in the calendar.

14. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member ~~automatically updating services~~ comprises providing an on-line forum for current members of the group to chat with other current members of the group including the new member.

15. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein ~~automatically updating services~~ sharing the stored information associated with the current members of the group and the new member comprises enabling current members of the group to send instant messages to other current members of the group including the new member.

16. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein ~~automatically updating services~~ associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises ~~enabling~~ sharing data files with current members of the group ~~to share data files with other current members of the group~~ including the new member.

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17. (Previously presented): The computer implemented method of claim 16 wherein the data files are provided by the current members of the group.

18. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 16 wherein data files comprise digital images.

19. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 16 wherein data files comprise photographs.

20. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 16 wherein data files comprise text files.

21. (Original): The computer implemented method of claim 16 wherein data files comprise multi-media files.

22. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 further comprising offering new services ~~based upon~~to the current members of the group including the new member.

23. (Currently amended): The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein ~~automatically updating services~~ sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises providing information in an instant messaging buddy list shared by the group that includes information for the new member.

24. (Currently amended): A communication system for sharing information among members of a group comprising:

a group administrator for processing information about the current members of the group;

a group communicator cooperating with the group administrator for delivering and exchanging information with current and prospective group members including enabling current group members to access member-only static data resources; and

a group information updater cooperating with the group communicator and group administrator for providing ~~automatically updated services~~ updated information associated with group members to current members including a new member, wherein in response to an affirmative response to an invitation to a prospective member to join the group, the group information updater is instructed by the group communicator to add the prospective member to the group.

25. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 24 wherein the group administrator further comprises:

a group member profile server for updating data related to current members including the new member; and

a database connected to the group member profile server for storing data related to current members including the new member.

26. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 24 wherein the group communicator further comprises:

an instant message host in communication with a client system; and

a login server in communication with a client system and the instant message host for determining whether the client is authorized to access the instant message host.

27. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 26 wherein the instant message host further comprises:

an instant message server for sending and receiving data; and

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a domain server cooperating with the instant message server for providing supporting functions of the instant message host.

28. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 27 wherein the instant message host further comprises a routing gateway connected to the instant message server.

29. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 24 wherein the group communicator further comprises:

an Online Service Provider host in communication with a client system; and

a login server in communication with the client system and the Online Service Provider host for determining whether the client is authorized to access the Online Service Provider host.

30. (Previously presented): The communication system of claim 26 wherein the Online Service Provider host further comprises an Online Service Provider server for sending and receiving data.

31. (Previously presented): The communications system of claim 24 wherein the group information updater further comprises a user interface for communicating and exchanging data with one or more members of the group including the new member.

32. (Previously presented): The communications system of claim 31 wherein the user interface resides on an Online Service Provider host.

33. (Original): The communications system of claim 31 wherein the user interface resides on the Internet.

34. (Cancelled)

35. (Currently amended): A computer program, stored on a computer readable medium, comprising instructions for:

storing member-only static data resources associated with a group;

storing information about more than one current member of a group in a database;

receiving instructions from at least one current member to invite at least one prospective member to join the group;

sending an invitation to the prospective member to join the group;

receiving a response from the prospective member;

adding the prospective member to the group as a new member based upon receipt of an affirmative response; and

automatically updating ~~services to~~ group membership ~~current members~~ to account for the new member;

storing information associated with the new member in the database;

sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member based upon the updated group membership; and

sharing the stored information associated with the current members of the group and the new member based upon the updated group membership.

36. (Original): The computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer readable medium is a disc.

37. (Original): The computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer readable medium is a client device.

38. (Original): The computer program of claim 35 wherein the computer readable medium is a host device.

39. (Cancelled)

40. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 in which the current members of the group comprise members of a family.

41. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 in which the prospective member comprises a relative of a current member of the group.

42. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 in which storing information about all members of a group comprises storing information about all members of a private group.

43. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 in which storing information about all members of a group comprises storing information about all members of a public group.

44. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 wherein the invitation comprises a personalized message to the prospective member.

45. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising authorizing an invitation to be sent to the prospective member.

46. (Previously presented): The method of claim 45 in which the authorizing is performed by a group founder.

47. (Previously presented): The method of claim 45 in which the authorizing is performed by a group owner.

48. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising deleting a current member.

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49. (Previously presented): The method of claim 48 in which the deleting is performed by a group founder.

50. (Previously presented): The method of claim 48 in which the deleting is performed by a group owner.

51. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising promoting a current member to a group owner.

52. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising denoting a group owner to a current member.

53. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising promoting a group owner to a founder.

54. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising providing a notification of the response to one or more current members.

55. (Previously presented): The method of claim 1 further comprising treating the new member as a current member.

56. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises sharing a member-only private group website.

57. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises sharing a map.

58. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein sharing the member-only static data resources associated with the group with the current members of the group and the new member comprises sharing buddy list information.

59. (New) The computer implemented method of claim 1 wherein member-only static data resources are selected by a person or a system that is outside of the group.